

## Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-02 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-03 H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-03 SS-20

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 OMB-01

SWF-02 DRC-01 /183 W  
----- 105040

R 111551Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4962

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE FOR FITZSIMMONDS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, GW

SUBJECT: PROPOSED DUTY PREFERENCES TO MEDITERRANEAN  
COUNTRIES

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: EC COMMISSION PLANS TO OFFER DUTY  
PREFERENCES FOR CERTAIN PROCESSED FRUIT AND VEGETABLES  
TO MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING A MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CALIFOR-  
NIA ARIZONA CITRUS INDUSTRY IN BONN, WE DISCUSSED THE  
SUBSTANCE AND POSSIBLE EFFECT OF THE FUTURE EC MEDITER-  
RANEAN POLICY REGARDING FRESH AND PROCESSED FRUIT AND  
VEGETABLES. THE INDUSTRY GROUP WAS INFORMED BY THE  
ISRAELI ATTACHE STATIONED IN BRUSSELS THAT THE COMMISSION  
IS INTENDING TO OFFER A DUTY REDUCTION FOR ORANGE AND  
GRAPEFRUIT JUICE TO THE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES INCLUD-  
ING ISRAEL.

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3. IN CHECKING INTO THIS SITUATION, WE WERE INFORMED BY THE TRADE THAT THE EC HAS REACHED BASIC AGREEMENT ON A NEW MANDATE FOR THE COMMISSION TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES ON A COMMON EC TRADE POLICY FOR THIS AREA. THIS MANDATE INCLUDES CERTAIN TRADE AND DUTY PREFERENCES.

4. ACCORDING TO TRADE INFORMATION, THIS MANDATE AUTHORIZES THE EC COMMISSION TO OFFER A 70 PERCENT DUTY PREFERENCE FOR ORANGE JUICE AND GRAPEFRUIT JUICE ORIGINATING IN THESE COUNTRIES. THIS OFFER IS COUPLED WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF MINIMUM IMPORT PRICES (M.I.P.'S) FOR A NUMBER OF PROCESSED FRUITS INCLUDING ORANGE AND LEMON JUICES. NO ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN ON THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL.

5. AN INDICATION OF THE TOTAL PACKAGE OF DUTY PREFERENCES OFFERED TO THE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES WAS PUBLISHED IN FOOD NEWS OF JULY 26, 1974. FOLLOWING WE ARE LISTING THE PRODUCTS AND THE DUTIES WHICH, ACCORDING TO THIS SOURCE, WILL BE OFFERED BY THE EC COMMISSION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES: TUNISIA, ALGERIA, MOROCCO, SPAIN, ISRAEL AND MALTA.

CURRENT UK CURRENT AQREED OFFER  
TARIFF RATE EC TAR- TO MEDITER-  
IFF RATE RANEAN COUN-  
TRIES

PERCENT AD VALOREM

CANNED APRICOTS	12	22	L7.6
APRICOT PULP	NIL	17	L1.9
APRICOT HALVES	NIL	17	13.6
CANNED PEACH HALVES	NIL	17	12.0
CANNED SATSUMAS	7.5	22-24	12.8
CANNED FRUIT SALAD	NIL	22	10.0
COMMINUTED CITRUS	NIL	16-23	L0.2
GRAPEFRUIT JUICE	NIL	15	4.5
ORANGE JUICE	NIL	19-42	5.7
SHELLED ALMONDS	NIL	7	7.0
BULK WINE	6.6	9-11	L0.0

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6. EMBASSY COMMENT: IF THIS OFFER IS ACCEPTED BY THE RESPECTIVE MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES, THE PREFERENTIAL DUTIES WOULD NEGATIVELY AFFECT EXPORTS OF RESPECTIVE U.S. PRODUCTS TO GERMANY. THIS WILL BE ESPECIALLY TRUE FOR GRAPEFRUIT AND ORANGE JUICES. AS PRICE COMPETITION ON THE GERMAN MARKET IS PARTICULARLY FIERCE FOR THESE PRODUCTS. ACCORDING TO THE OPINION OF THE CALIFORNIA/ARIZONA CITRUS INDUSTRY - A 70 PERCENT DUTY PREFERENCE

WOULD PRACTICALLY ELIMINATE U.S. EXPORTS OF ORANGE AND GRAPEFRUIT JUICES TO GERMANY.

7. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMATION, THE DISCUSSIONS ON THE PROPOSED M.I.P. SYSTEM FOR SELECTED FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTS ARE AGAIN IN THE STAGE OF EXPERT DISCUSSIONS. THE EC COMMISSION HOWEVER, REPORTEDLY STILL INTENDS TO OBTAIN FINAL COUNCIL AGREEMENT BEFORE THE END OF 1974 AND PLANS APPLICATION OF M.I.P.'S BEGINNING JULY 1, 1975.  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FRUIT, VEGETABLES, PREFERENTIAL TARIFFS, TARIFF DATA  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**Subject:** PROPOSED DUTY PREFERENCES TO MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES  
**TAGS:** EAGR, GE, EEC  
**To:** STATE  
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